



A34943 / 090495.0243

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jonathan M. Graff et al.

Serial No. : 10/002,631

Examiner: TBA

Filed : October 31, 2001

Group Art Unit: TBA

For : METHOD TO IDENTIFY SIGNAL SEQUENCES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

April 9, 2002

BY EXPRESS MAIL NO. EU206443033US

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
2900 Crystal Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is being filed to amend the claims in light of the Petition to Make Special filed concurrently herewith. Please consider the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claims 1-113.

Please add the following new claims:

114. A method for identifying a candidate eukaryotic nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide which comprises a signal sequence and/or transmembrane sequence comprising:

(a) contacting a bacterial cell with a plasmid comprising a marker gene and the candidate eukaryotic nucleic acid; and